REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the above-identified application in light of the Office Action dated March 22, 2001. Claims 1-15 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 7 and 11, the independent claims, have been amended to more clearly recite what Applicants regard as their invention. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentalbe over U.S. Patent 6,252,563 (Tada et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,243,578 (Koike). Claims 3, 5, 6, 9, 12, 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentalbe over Tada et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. (Haneda).

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are patentable for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 as amended is directed to a method of inputting and processing a variety of user information for a digital mobile station, which includes a touch screen panel and a control module for processing touch screen data generated from the touch screen panel. The method includes the steps of starting a counter having a predetermined, periodic time period in response to the digital mobile station entering a write input mode, detecting whether the touch screen data generated from the touch screen panel was input during an interval of the predetermined time period, and displaying and storing the touch screen data generated within the predetermined time period during the write input mode. The method also includes the steps of determining whether a next touch screen data is generated from the touch screen panel within a next predetermined time period and if the next touch screen data is detected within the next predetermined time period, displaying and storing the next

touch screen data.

Tada et al., as read by Applicant, relates to a coordinate input apparatus that has a plurality display integrated tablets in each of which a display and an input device is integrated. Tada et al. teaches a method which allows for input coordinate information from the plurality of tablets by specifying coordinate positions (see col. 1, lines 55-60).

In Tada et al., when a touch pen 11a touches a first tablet (10a), the time of this occurs is stored (see col. 4, lines 58-63). When the touch pen 11a separates from the tablet 10a, a timer 2 is activated (see col. 5, lines 3-5 and lines 28-30). The timer 2 is used to determine amount of time elapsed between the touch pen 11 separating the tablet 10a and first touching another tablet 10b (see col. 5, lines 34-35).

Nothing has been found in Tada et al., however, that teaches or suggests that a counter having a predetermined, periodic time period is started in response to the digital mobile station entering a write input mode, as recited in Claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that the use of the timer in Tada et al. is substantially different the features recited in Claim 1. In particular, the counter as recited in Claim 1 is used in a periodic manner to detect whether a predetermined time interval has lapsed. In contract, the timer in Tada et al. is used to detect the amount of time that has elapsed between the touch pen leaving one tablet and touching another tablet.

The addition of Koike is not believed to cure the infirmities of Tada et al.

Also, it is noted that the Office Action asserts that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to adapt the teachings of Tada et al. for a digital mobile station. However,

the teachings of Tada et al. are directed to devices that have a plurality of display tablets. Such teachings would likely be of little to no value to digital mobile stations that include only one display. Accordingly, it is submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would not look to Tada et al. for digital mobile stations having only one display.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is allowable over Tada et al. and Koide.

Independent Claims 7 and 11 recite features similar to Claim 1 and are believed patentable for at least the same reasons.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. These claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case may be, of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application are respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to kindly telephone the undersigned telephone number listed below. If there are any fees and owing, please charge Deposit Account No. 11-1153.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix of Claim Amendments

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1. (Amended) A method of inputting and processing a variety of user information for a digital mobile station, which includes a touch screen panel and a control module for processing touch screen data generated from the touch screen panel, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) ~~repeatedly~~starting a countering having a predetermined periodic time period in response to the digital mobile station entering a write input mode;

(b) detecting the touch screen data generated from the touch screen panel was input at during an interval of the predetermined time period;

(c) displaying and storing the touch screen data generated within the predetermined time period during the write input mode;

(d) determining whether a next touch screen data is generated from the touch screen panel within a next predetermined time period; and,

(e) if the next touch screen data is detected within the next predetermined time period, displaying and storing the next touch screen data.

7. (Amended) A method of inputting and processing a variety of user information for a digital mobile station, which includes a touch screen panel and a control module for processing touch screen data generated from the touch screen panel, the method comprising the steps of:

(b) setting the mobile station in a write input mode;

(b) determining whether a predetermined, periodic period of time has lapsed in response to the touch screen data generated from the touch screen panel during the write input mode;

(c) determining whether the touch screen data is generated after the expiration of the predetermined time period;

(d) determining whether the generated touch screen data within the predetermined time period is one continuous line;

(e) if the generated touch data is one continuous line within the predetermined time period, displaying and storing the generated touch screen data in a display unit and a buffer of the mobile station, respectively; and,

(f) if the generated touch data is not one continuous line within the predetermined time period, displaying and storing the generated touch screen data as a new starting line in the display unit and the buffer of the mobile station, respectively.

11. (Amended) A method of processing user information inputted through a touch screen panel for a digital mobile station, comprising the steps of:

(a) repeatedly detecting a series of touch screen data generated from the touch screen panel atduring an interval of a predetermined periodic time period while the digital mobile station is in during a write input mode; and,

(b) displaying the generated touch screen data in a display unit of the mobile station by connecting a series of the touch screen data generated at the predetermined time period interval if the touch screen data generated at the predetermined time period interval is a continuous line.